

West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board Larry Carr, Chairperson

The meeting of the West Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board meeting was held on Thursday, June 8, 2023, at Arkansas Career Development Center and via TEAMS.

Members Present: Brent Black, Larry Carr, Cynthia Gleghorn, Herman Grayer, Lisa Greene, Neal Harrington, Johnny Harris, and Gary Troutman

Members Present via TEAMS: Karen Breashears, Tanif Crotts, Allan George, William Golden, and Tammy Passafiume

Members Absent: Greg Black, Darla Crump, Kelli Embry, Jimmy Hart, Jeremy Hughes, Matthew Johnson, Cathy Jones, Cynthia Lanphear, Stephanie Lipsmeyer, Alan Nolan, and Bryan Smith

Staff: Martha Boyer (TEAMS), Margaret Dearmon, David Moore, Cora Easterday, Carrie Pratchard, Dwayne Pratt,

Guests: Chad Brown, Derrick Harris, Andy Hightower, Terence Jackson, Thomas Pittman, Tanya Plunkett

Larry Carr called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m. He said that at this time we do not have a quorum, so we will discuss and make recommendations to the Executive Committee. Larry Carr gave an invocation.

Introduction of New Members

Carr welcomed Cynthia Gleghorn, who is our newest board member. She is representing Vocational Rehabilitation.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the April meeting needed to be approved. Lisa Greene made a **motion** to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Herman Grayer and carried unanimously.

Approval of Excused Absences:

Tammy Passafiume made a **motion** to recommend approval of the following excused absence request that were received by Kelli Embry, Bryan Smith, Matthew Johnson, Darla Crump, Greg Black, and Stephanie Lipsmeyer. Judge Hart seconded the motion.

Budget Reviews:

Larry Carr reported that we went over the budgets in depth at the last meeting due to the new format. He said he asked Carrie to address any questions since she is the one who prepares the budgets. He went over the reports and reiterated that we have two years to spend the funds. We always have carryover to continue to provide services. He also mentioned that at the last meeting, funds were transferred from DLW to the Adult funds. David Moore mentioned that the preliminary allocation for next year shows about a 10% cut in funding for the next program year. Discussion followed.

Monitoring Report

Larry Carr said the next agenda item was the PY-2022 Monitoring Report. He has Margaret Dearmon to talk about it. She said that we responded to the report, and it has been submitted to ADWS and we are awaiting a response back from them. She said that she would send the response out to the members.

Youth Standing Committee Meeting:

Larry Carr stated that Alan Nolan could not be in the meeting today and asked David to give the report for him. David said that he talked with Alan this morning and said that today would be his last day on the board because he is retiring. David talked about the report that was in the packet. He said the only thing that it didn't cover was serving

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in school youth. The committee recommended the local board to give authority to serve in school youth starting next program year. The youth can be served during the year in other program elements and then enroll in the summer program next year. Larry Carr asked if there was anything else and Margaret Dearmon said that the board will need to make recommendations to update the policies with the information in red. Tammy Passafiume motioned and seconded by Lisa Greene to recommend to the Executive Committee to approve the policies as written in the packet.

New Business:

One Stop Operator: Andy Hightower went over the One Stop Operator report that was in the packet. He reported that he will be following up with ADWS to see where they are on signing the MOU/IFA that they have in their possession and signed by all local partners. He said he will find out what the next steps in their mind are. That is an important thing to complete not just because it is a WIOA requirement, but also because it is a critical part of the center certification and other processes and elements of WIOA. He went over the strategic planning and the goals they want to implement and work toward meeting the goals. Discussion followed.

Larry Carr said that he has a modification to the One Stop Operator's budget. In October 22, ADWS had their Partner Meeting October 19-21. The board staff member requested that the OS Operator attend. That caused them to travel and make reservations at the hotel. In doing so, they incurred a total of \$3852 and we were not able to modify their budget until now. He would like the board to make the recommendation to modify their budget for that conference. *NOTE: Now that we have at least 51% private sector at the meeting, voting can resume.* Karen Breashears motioned to amend the budget that is presented, seconded by Lisa Greene. Motion carried unanimously.

Business Engagement Coordinator Report: Cora Easterday introduced Prestley Smith as our new Digital Media Coordinator. Cora talked about the rebranding of the Expungement Fair to Record Sealing Clinic. Cora then reported on ACT Readiness and JAZZ HR. It is time to renew the contract for JAZZ HR. The cost has gone up from \$2580 to \$2838 for a difference of \$258. She reported that we can get a better rate if we agree to a 2-year contract and the cost would be \$2640. Discussion followed. Lisa Greene motioned, seconded by Tammy Passafiume, to go with the two-year contract. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of Workforce Development in Local Communities:

Gary Troutman talked about Draft Day at Lake Hamilton High School.

Dwayne Pratt said he has been asked to recognize Larry Carr and thank him for his leadership to the board and through the State of Arkansas. Dwayne said on behalf of the Board and the Planning and Development District, he would like to present him with a small token of appreciation. It is a clock recognizing Mr. Carr for his 23 years on the WIA and WIOA Boards.

Adjournment:

A **motion** to adjourn was made by Lisa Greene and seconded by Judge Hart. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.



Lisa Greene, Chair

LG/md